

A COMMUNICATION NETWORK HAVING ADJUSTABLE RESPONSE  
TIMEOUTS AND METHOD THEREFORE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communication network implements a timing system that closely approximates network response times so that information may be transmitted between two data processing systems within the network in a timely and efficient manner. During operation of the communication network, a sending data processing system sends query data to a receiving data processing system. A response timer within the sending data processing system is initialized to track the query operation. If the receiving data processing system provides a response to the sending data processing system before the response timer expires, the timing implemented for data communications is proper for the communication network. However, if the receiving data processing system fails to provide a response within a time specified by the response timer, the transmitting data processing system resends a query frame. Subsequently, the sending data processing system in the communication network gradually increases a response time until the time measured by the response timer does not expire before a response is received by the sending data processing system.

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